

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please delete the heading “CLAIMS” and insert the heading

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (Original) A method for the production of a multimatrix (32) of rubber which can be used for the simultaneous manufacture of a plurality of identical decorative elements of resin, in particular ornaments (10), comprising the stages of:
 - preparing a metal matrix (12) which reproduces in positive form the shape of at least one ornament (10),
 - providing the metal matrix (12) with lateral walls (14) in such a manner as to form a first hollow vessel, the bottom of which is constituted by the metal matrix (12),
 - pouring into the first vessel a rubber (16) in the fluid state and leaving it to harden to give a hardened rubber matrix (18) which reproduces in negative form the shape of the at least one ornament (10), this operation being repeated until a plurality of matrices (18) of hardened rubber is obtained,
 - putting together the matrices (18) of hardened rubber in a side-by-side arrangement to give a composite rubber structure (20) having several identical figures,

- providing the composite structure (20) with lateral walls (22) in such a manner as to form a second hollow vessel, the bottom of which is constituted by the composite structure (20),
- pouring a resin (24) into the second vessel and leaving it to harden to give an intermediate multimatrix (26) which reproduces in positive form the shape of a plurality of ornaments (10),
- providing the intermediate multimatrix (26) with lateral walls (28) in such a manner as to form a third hollow vessel, the bottom of which is constituted by the intermediate multimatrix (26), and
- pouring into the third vessel a rubber (30) in the fluid state and leaving it to harden to give a rubber multimatrix (32) having several identical figures (34), each of which reproduces in negative form the shape of a single ornament (10).

2. (Original) A method according to claim 1, wherein the metal matrix (12) reproduces in positive form the shape of a single ornament (10).

3. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 1 ~~or 2~~, wherein said intermediate multimatrix (26) is hardened at a temperature of from 45 to 50°C for a period of time of from 10 to 12 hours.

Preliminary Amendment
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4. (Currently Amended) A method according to ~~any one of the preceding~~ claims 1, wherein said rubber (16, 30) has anti-adhesive properties and is free from additives, such as oils or plasticisers, capable of migrating.

5. (Original) A method for the simultaneous manufacture of a plurality of identical decorative articles of resin, in particular ornaments (10), comprising the stages of:

- preparing a multimatrix (32) of hardened rubber having several identical figures (34), each of which reproduces in negative form the shape of a single ornament (10),
- pouring a resin (36) into each figure (34) and leaving it to harden, and
- demoulding the hardened resin (36) from each figure to give a plurality of identical ornaments (10).

6. (Original) A method according to claim 5, which provides for covering the surface of the figures (34), before pouring the resin (36), with a coating capable of adhering to the decorative resin (36), in order to obtain a covering of the outer surface of the ornaments (10).

7. (Currently Amended) A method according to either claim 5 ~~or claim 6~~, which provides that, when the resin (36) has hardened, a bi-adhesive sheet is applied to the back of the ornaments (10).